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Letter from Kate C. Barton to Floride, September 17

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Recommended Citation

"Letter from Kate C. Barton to Floride, September 17" (2020). *Thomas Green Clemson Papers, Mss 2*. 1538.

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Sec. North's term of enlistment
is over - wait picture of J.

Davis

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bantams; silkies in

incomplete

A
C626.

Claymont. Sept 1st 1841

It seems like a long time since I
wrote to you; the time passed so
quickly that I cannot realize that only
ten days of my visit are gone. Our very
valuable little Treach, and in the town,
and I felt really indebted to you for keeping
your promise and writing practically, for
hearing from you cheered me up so much.
Last night on my return from the city
your enclosure was given me. I can tell
you how delighted I was to get it, and how
such splendid accounts. How your books
are very systematic, so will you find a
synopsis of my doings since I wrote last. I
can't judge for myself why I was so glad
to read. On Monday evening Jimmie, Broom and
Mr John Gilpin one of the summer boarders
called, bringing Maggie Broom and Missillard
with them! We had a pleasant evening in
a still way. Aunt Phoebe sat in the sofa
and listened to us all. I talked for hours

to finish, Sally sat in the middle of the
room with Mr Gilpin and the Tottens sat
round the table working, and Mattie interrupted
the conversations systematically. The next
evening we all went over to Browns, and I
had to listen to Mr B. talking with violent
union fanaticism. I did manage to keep
my temper, by answering as little as possible
though when I did my voice had a very
decided firmness. Knowing my failing for
answering independently, do you not think I
deserve credit? We had company to
dinner next day, and the next Mrs Briggs
and Sophy, brought John down to school. I
suppose you remember Sophy, you know she
is Aunt Lees niece. The rest of the week
passed quietly enough, we walked down every
cartoon to the depot, which continues to
be a great place of resort. One morning the
Ellis called on me, and Tom Clemens came on
and spent two days. On Saturday morning
early Sally and I went up to the city to
stay over Sunday. We had a delightful visit.

Mr Gilkin said himself by me and entertained
me all the way up. I was glad to have some
company, for the engine broke just below
Marcus Hook, and we had to wait an hour till
another could be procured. We reached the
city about ten o'clock, and went immediately
out to Aunt Kate. She had returned the day
before from Branch Creek where she had been
spending several weeks, and was delighted to see
us. Alf looks uncommonly well, and the children
are much grown, though Bessie is still the
same in other ways. George was home, his term
of enlistment having run out; he talks of
going into another company for three years
but has not yet decided whether to go
or stay. He asked about the Landfords and
when I told him they had all emigrated, he "hoped
he might get a shot at them". Northern
politics is at an immense exaltation, from
the parity of the article. Indeed the stock is
nearly given out. We sat out there and talked
for some time, and then came on in the
city again. I really think our project has bolted

ten miles that day. I met a great many of my acquaintances and the first thing they all asked me if I was really sick, as you express it, and I always told the truth. I paid Emma Cofite a long visit, and met with a hearty welcome, in spite of an opposing principle. That evening Harry came out to see me, and he also gave me a hearty welcome. He looks very well and very handsome, and I like him better than I ever did before, because he is not so violent. He is strong but polite in manner, and has too many relations in the rebel army to shoot at them. I wish you had read his letter, you were perfectly welcome to. On Sunday we went to church three times in spite of the intense heat. Yesterday we left West Philadelphia about eleven o'clock. I went to see Sam Buff and she made me promise to go up next Monday and stay a week with her. It made me sad going up past our house, and seeing it occupied by other people. We also went to see Bidie and Paul. They are much grown, and Bidie has a beautiful figure. Robert Redmond walked up street with me.